

**A RESOLUTION**

**BY: COUNCILMEMBERS MICHAEL JULIAN BOND, H. LAMAR WILLIS, KWANZA HALL, IVORY LEE YOUNG, JR. AND AARON WATSON**

**AS SUBSTITUTED  
BY: FULL COUNCIL**

**A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE 2010 CITY OF ATLANTA GEORGIA GENERAL ASSEMBLY LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE SO AS TO EXPRESS THE CITY OF ATLANTA'S SUPPORT FOR A MUNICIPAL OPTION SALES TAX ("MOST") FOR THE CREATION OF A PUBLIC SAFETY IMPROVEMENT FUND; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

**WHEREAS**, nearly 50 percent of the City's total annual budget of \$541 million goes towards the public safety needs of the police, fire and corrections departments, as well as the solicitor's office and related court services; and

**WHEREAS**, public safety employees now account for more than 70 percent of all City personnel in the General Fund; and

**WHEREAS**, over 65 percent of general fund expenses in the FY2010 budget are public safety related; and

**WHEREAS**, the City's resident population is now over half a million, while its daytime population exceeds well over one million; and

**WHEREAS**, the City provides police, fire and emergency and related court services to all residents and visitors; and

**WHEREAS**, the provision of these services severely taxes the City's fiscal well-being; and

**WHEREAS**, the City requires additional revenues to repair, upgrade, construct or lease police precincts, squad cars, fire stations, fire equipment including trucks and ladder engines as well as other pressing public safety needs; and

**WHEREAS**, the revenues from the public safety improvement fund would be designated specifically for needed equipment, supplies, repairs and other necessities for the purpose of off-setting capital expenditures; and

**WHEREAS**, the revenues for said fund – collected from within the corporate boundaries of the City, including Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport – would be in the form of a voter referendum for a 1% City of Atlanta Public Safety Municipal Option Sales Tax (MOST); and

**WHEREAS**, enactment and imposition of a MOST would capture revenue from non-residents who use the City's police, fire and emergency and related court services; and

**WHEREAS**, the MOST referendum would allow City of Atlanta voters to choose the method by which they want to fund necessary and vital public safety improvements.

**NOW THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA, GEORGIA HEREBY RESOLVES** and amends the 2010 City of Atlanta Georgia General Assembly Legislative Package so as to express the City of Atlanta's support for a Municipal Option Sales Tax (MOST) for the creation of a Public Safety Improvement Fund.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that, if so authorized, the City of Atlanta expresses its intent to offer the MOST to the voters during 2012, where, if successful, all revenues raised from the MOST will be annually reviewed and published on the City's website and in a newspaper of general circulation so as to provide the citizens of Atlanta with a clear record and full disclosure of the allocation and use of all MOST dollars collected.

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, That all resolutions, or parts of resolutions, in conflict herewith are hereby waived to the extent of the conflict.

RCS# 28  
1/19/10  
2:50 PM

Atlanta City Council

REGULAR SESSION

10-R-0136 CREATION OF PUB.SAFETY IMPROVEMENT FUND

REFER/FINANCE

YEAS: 14  
NAYS: 1  
ABSTENTIONS: 0  
NOT VOTING: 1  
EXCUSED: 0  
ABSENT 0

Y Smith	Y Archibong	Y Moore	Y Bond
Y Hall	Y Wan	Y Martin	Y Watson
N Young	Y Shook	Y Bottoms	Y Willis
Y Winslow	Y Adrean	Y Sheperd	NV Mitchell

RCS# 27  
1/19/10  
2:49 PM

Atlanta City Council

REGULAR SESSION

PROCEDURE

CALL THE QUESTION

YEAS: 15  
NAYS: 0  
ABSTENTIONS: 0  
NOT VOTING: 1  
EXCUSED: 0  
ABSENT 0

Y Smith	Y Archibong	Y Moore	Y Bond
Y Hall	Y Wan	Y Martin	Y Watson
Y Young	Y Shook	Y Bottoms	Y Willis
Y Winslow	Y Adrean	Y Sheperd	NV Mitchell

PROCEDURE

RCS# 26  
1/19/10  
2:27 PM

Atlanta City Council

REGULAR SESSION

10-R-0136 CREATION OF PUB.SAFETY IMPROVEMENT FUND

BRING SUB FWD

YEAS: 14  
NAYS: 1  
ABSTENTIONS: 0  
NOT VOTING: 1  
EXCUSED: 0  
ABSENT 0

Y Smith	Y Archibong	N Moore	Y Bond
Y Hall	Y Wan	Y Martin	Y Watson
Y Young	Y Shook	Y Bottoms	Y Willis
Y Winslow	Y Adrean	Y Sheperd	NV Mitchell

RCS# 25  
1/19/10  
2:26 PM

Atlanta City Council

REGULAR SESSION

PROCEDURE

CALL THE QUESTION

YEAS: 15  
NAYS: 0  
ABSTENTIONS: 0  
NOT VOTING: 1  
EXCUSED: 0  
ABSENT 0

Y Smith	Y Archibong	Y Moore	Y Bond
Y Hall	Y Wan	Y Martin	Y Watson
Y Young	Y Shook	Y Bottoms	Y Willis
Y Winslow	Y Adrean	Y Sheperd	NV Mitchell

PROCEDURE

**A RESOLUTION****BY COUNCILMEMBER MICHAEL JULIAN BOND**

**A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR THE CREATION OF A PUBLIC SAFETY IMPROVEMENT FUND; REQUESTING THE MAYOR OR HIS DESIGNEE TO DIRECT CITY STAFF TO ADD THE CREATION OF SUCH A FUND TO THE CITY'S 2010 GEORGIA GENERAL ASSEMBLY LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

WHEREAS, nearly 50 percent of the City's total annual budget of \$541 million goes towards the public safety needs of the police, fire and corrections departments, as well as the solicitor's office and related court services; and

WHEREAS, public safety employees now account for more than 70 percent of all City personnel in the General Fund; and

WHEREAS, over 65 percent of general fund expenses in the FY2010 budget are public safety related; and

WHEREAS, the City's resident population is now over half a million, while its daytime population exceeds well over one million; and

WHEREAS, the City must provide police, fire and emergency and related court services to all residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS, the provision of these services severely taxes the City's fiscal well-being; and

WHEREAS, a 2006 Bain & Co. study showed the State of Georgia contributes less than 2 percent to the City of Atlanta's operating budget, while nationally, the average city receives 15 percent of its budget from the state; and

WHEREAS, the City requires additional revenues to repair, upgrade, construct or lease police precincts, squad cars, fire stations, fire equipment including trucks and ladder engines as well as other pressing public safety needs; and

WHEREAS, the revenues from the public safety improvement fund would be designated specifically for needed equipment, supplies, repairs and other

necessities for the purpose of off-setting capital expenditures, allowing the City's General Fund public safety budget to be available for competitive salaries and benefits; and

WHEREAS, the revenues for said fund – collected from within the corporate boundaries of the City, including Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport – could be in the form of a voter referendum for a Public Safety Municipal Option Sales Tax (MOST) or a voter referendum for a millage rate increase set aside for public safety, or in the form of a State law allowing the City to designate a certain percentage of its millage rate for specific public safety expenditures; and

NOW THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA, GEORGIA HEREBY RESOLVES and calls for the creation of a public safety improvement fund and requests that the Mayor direct City staff to add the creation of such a fund to the City's 2010 Georgia General Assembly legislative package.

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED:** that all resolutions or parts of resolutions in conflict herewith are hereby waived to the extent of the conflict.